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CD NO.

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

DIFFICULTIES IN HARBOR OPERATIONS AT SIBENIK

Loading of lumber into ships has been carried on under great difficulties. Lumber has been scattered about the entire depot, often at a distance of 200 meters from the shore. Three operations go forward simultaneously at the depot: merchandise is unloaded from the railroad cars, hauled to the loading place, and loaded into ships. Sorting also is often done there. The enterprise does not handle the unloading from the cars and sorting; but these operations often delay the loading aboard ship by 30-40 percent.

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If goods were forwarded to the port properly prepared for loading, already sorted and arranged in the car according to their destination, the work would be greatly facilitated.

The unystematic flow of goods, with which almost all the major Yugoslav ports have to contend, has complicated operations in the harbor. Senders do not report goods to be shipped via the port, and goods accumulate there, taking up space and often suffering damage. Many senders do not ship their goods in sacks and whether because of the lack of packing or of manpower or because of unfavorable weather, this often hinders operations. Moreover, the transport by sea of merchandise which could have been shipped directly by rail often clogs the harbor. For example, the Dalmatian Mines in Siveric send coal to Susak via Sibenik by sea, although they could use rail transport. After shipment into Sibenik, the goods are unloaded from the cars and sometimes stand for months awaiting ship transportation to Susak. If the goods were already loaded in freight cars, they could be sent to Susak speedily by rail, eliminating reloading and storage at the harbor.

The Workers' Service of Supply has no source of its own from which to purchase food, and so is dependent upon the municipal supply net. The steps that have been taken to provide winter supplies for the port workers have met no success thus far. The mess halls can serve only 150 workers; a large new blue- and white-collar workers' restaurant is badly needed. However, the workers will receive more rationed food when the decree granting them R-1b ration cards goes into effect on 1 December.

The housing problem is becoming more acute with the increase in the number of workers. A sufficient number of beds for the workers' sleeping quarters has not yet been provided.

As yet there are no sanitary facilities in the Sibenik wharf area. The construction of baths, dressing rooms, and toilets was begun but suddenly dropped, although they could have finished by the end of 1948. As the construction of these installations is not only in the interest of the harbor workers and of the enterprise, but also in the interest of the entire city, more attention should be paid to these projects.

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